

REMARKS:

Claims 7-11 are in the case and presented for consideration.

Claims 7-11 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-5 of U.S. Patent 6,680,012.

Applicants submit a terminal disclaimer with a copy of U.S. Patent 6,680,012 and the requisite fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.20(d).

Claims 7-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Claims 7-11 no longer recite the objectionable subject matter.

Claims 7, 9, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious from U.S. Patent 3,052,925 to Bronnenkant.

Claim 7 has been rewritten to recite that "the control means can be operated independently from movement of the antechamber frame." The amendment is supported in the specification. The specification discloses a needle 9, a lever 11, and a hydraulic unit 12 which provide control means. These elements are independent of the injection side as shown in the drawings. The drawings also show that the antechamber has a basic structure or frame.

Applicants respectfully submit that Bronnenkant '925 fails to teach or suggest at least one limitation recited in independent claim 7.

Bronnenkant '925 fails to teach or suggest a control means that can be operated without moving the antechamber. Bronnenkant '925 only provides an instantaneous release that is based on the opening of a nozzle which is dependent on the injection side. The nozzle valve 63 is opened and closed by movement of the nozzle 60. (col. 3, lines 45-63; col. 4, lines 33-43). Fig. 1 (erroneously labeled Fig. 2) shows that the

nozzle 60 is threadingly attached, and therefore fixedly connected, to the heating cylinder 14 which is fixed to the ram cylinder 22 by means of screws. The nozzle 60 and the antechamber are attached. It is therefore not possible for the nozzle 60 to be independent from the injection side. Therefore, Bronnenkant '925 fails to teach or suggest any means which would enable a nozzle to be moved independently from the injection side of the antechamber.

Applicants further stress that the claimed invention is not only different from Bronnekant '925 because of the claimed independent control means for opening the shut-off means. Bronnenkant '925 only discloses that the shut-off means is opened when the nozzle valve 63 is pressed against the actuating washer 73 by a movement of the injection side. By contrast, claim 7 recites that the "shut-off means is opened in a controlled manner by a control means for modifying a pressure pattern in the mold cavity." Thus, the pressure pattern in the mold cavity is modified by how the shut-off means is operated. Bronnenkant '925 fails to teach or suggest such a limitation.

Claims 8-11 depend from claim 7 and are therefore believed to be patentable for the same reasons discussed above.

Thus, the application and claims are believed to be in condition for allowance and favorable action is respectfully requested.

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

The undersigned thanks the examiner for the interview conducted on Wednesday, February 23, 2005.

The substance of the interview on February 23, 2005 was as follows.

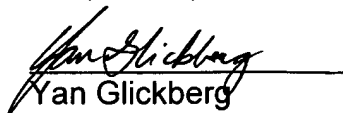
The undersigned proposed an amendment to claim 7, adding "a control means for modifying a pressure pattern in the mold cavity" and "wherein the control means can be operated without moving the antechamber." The examiner pointed out that the structure of the antechamber is distinguishable from the volume and that such a distinction should be made in the claim. In order to advance prosecution, applicants have amended claim 7 in the present response to further include the limitation of an antechamber having a frame and that " the control means can be operated independently from movement of the antechamber frame."

The examiner agreed that the control means of the present invention can be operated without moving the antechamber frame and that Bronnenkant '925 fails to teach or suggest this limitation.

Finally, the examiner indicated that the claimed invention is still obvious from Bronnekant '925 because the only difference is the type of valve. The examiner stated that the claimed control means is a different type of valve that does not affect the final result of the claimed method. The examiner further clarified that the relationship between the claimed control means and the operation of the antechamber is not changed. The examiner has not yet cited any reference to support this contention. Because the Office appears to be using personal knowledge rather than information

from a specific source, applicant requests that the Office provide an affidavit supporting its contention pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.104(d)(2).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yan Glickberg", is written over a horizontal line.

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